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UNCLASSIFIED INFORMATION

SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

DISCUSSES WARSAW HOSPITAL FACILITIES

HOSPITALS OVERCROWDED -- Zycie Warszawy, No 322, 22 Nov 49

In 1945, Warsaw had only 700 hospital beds; by 1948 these had increased to 5,402. Before the war there were 8,045 hospital beds in Warsaw, only 2,643 beds more than at present. While bed capacity is one third smaller, the number of residents is less than half the prewar figure. However, it must be remembered that prewar hospitals in Warsaw did not meet the population's needs.

Although the population of Warsaw decreased from 1,300,000 to 600,000, there are many thousands who live on the outskirts of the city who use the city's hospital facilities. The large number of patients from distant cities, towns, and villages who come to Warsaw's hospitals must also be considered. Many of the hospital patients are children and others who have no one to take care of them at home and, therefore, remain in hospitals. For these reasons Warsaw's hospitals are overcrowded and patients must wait many weeks for admittance, especially to neurology, internal medicine, and gynecology wards.

POOR SPIRIT AMONG DOCTORS SCORED -- Trybuna Ludu, No 332, 2 Dec 49

The ranks of the medical profession in Poland have been greatly thinned by the war. From a total of 13,000 practicing physicians, only 9,000 remain. These are not distributed according to population density. The Slask area alone could use 300 doctors for the minimum of care for its population.

To relieve this situation, a law was passed on 28 October 1946, according to earlier reports, this should read "1949" which provides for distribution of doctors according to population density.

Many factors are considered in choosing the transferees; the doctor's specialty, family status, health, etc. There is a minimum period of 6 months in which a local doctor is chosen and preparations made for the change. The doctor who are being settled in Slush are given the option of returning to their former location after 2 years. After a doctor receives notice of transfer, he has 2 weeks in which to file a protest.

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With Slask alone in need of 300 doctors, the fairness of such a law should not be questioned. There are, however, some doctors who are protesting against being transferred.

NEW MEDICAL SCHOOL OPENED -- Polska Zbrojna, No 336, 7 Dec 49

The first academic year of the new Ludwig Warynski Medical School in Zabrze opened on 4 December 1949.

President Bierut expressed the hope that the future graduates of the new school in the Slask area will use their medical knowledge for the benefit of the Slask miners and working people.

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